

## IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows.

On page 1, lines 4-5, please amend the following paragraph as indicated.

This application is a continuation in part of U.S. Application 09/585,174 filed on June 1, 2000 and issued on July 1, 2003 as U.S. Patent No. 6,586,229.

On page 5, lines 21-22, please delete the following paragraph.

~~Figure 8 illustrates the cluster of tmo/peu/pobA genes in *Pseudomonas mendocina* KR1.~~

On page 5, lines 23-36, please amend the paragraph as follows.

The following 142112 sequence descriptions contained in the sequences listing attached hereto comply with the rules governing nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosures in patent applications as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.821-1.825 ("Requirements for Patent Applications Containing Nucleotide Sequences and/or Amino Acid Sequence Disclosures – the Sequence Rules") and are consistent with World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Standard ST2.5 (1998) and the sequence listing requirements of the EPO and PCT (Rules 5.2 and 49.5(a-bis), and Section 208 and Annex C of the Administration Instructions). The Sequence Descriptions contain the one letter code for nucleotide sequence characters and the three letter codes for amino acids as defined in conformity with the IUPAC-IYUB standards described in *Nucleic Acids Res.* 13:3021-3030 (1985) and in the *Biochemical Journal* 219:345-373 (1984) which are herein incorporated by reference.

On page 7, lines 10-21, please delete the following paragraphs.

~~SEQ ID NO:113 is the nucleotide sequence of the *tmoST* genes (4821 bp).~~

~~SEQ ID NO:114 is the nucleotide sequence of the *tmoS* gene.~~

~~SEQ ID NO:115 is the nucleotide sequence of the *tmoT* gene.~~

~~SEQ ID NO:116 is the deduced amino acid sequence of TmoS encoded by SEQ ID NO:114 which has the enzyme activity of bZIP histidine kinase.~~

~~SEQ ID NO:117 is the deduced amino acid sequence of TmoT encoded by SEQ ID NO:115 which has the activity of a response regulator.~~

~~SEQ ID NO:118-142 are the primer sequences used to sequence *tmoST* genes in pMIR60 (pUC18/*Hind*III::insert *Hind*III of pMAX47-2)~~